



A.D. 1861, 26th NOVEMBER. N^o 2976.

SPECIFICATION

OF

JOHN HENRY JOHNSON.

APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING THE WOMB.

LONDON:

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1862.



A.D. 1861, 26th *NOVEMBER*. N^o 2976.

Apparatus for Supporting the Womb.

LETTERS PATENT to John Henry Johnson, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the County of Middlesex, and of 166, Buchanan Street, in the City of Glasgow, North Britain, Gentleman, for the Invention of "**A NEW OR IMPROVED APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING THE WOMB IN CASES OF PROLAPSUS UTERI.**"—A communication from abroad by Doctor Otto Langgaard, of Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia.

Sealed the 13th May 1862, and dated the 26th November 1861.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said John Henry Johnson, at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 26th November 1861.

I, JOHN HENRY JOHNSON, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the County of Middlesex, and of 166, Buchanan Street, in the City of Glasgow, North Britain, Gentleman, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**A NEW OR IMPROVED APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING THE WOMB IN CASES OF PROLAPSUS UTERI,**" a communication to me from abroad by Doctor Otto Langgaard, of Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia, to be as follows:—

10 This Invention relates to a peculiar construction of apparatus, which the Inventor terms the "**hysterophor,**" for supporting the womb in cases of prolapsus uteri, or falling of the womb.

This apparatus, which may be made of hard india-rubber or other suitable material, consists of a ring which is connected by swivel joints to two link

Johnson's New or Improved Apparatus for Supporting the Womb.

pieces, situate on diametrically opposite sides of the ring, the opposite ends of the link pieces being respectively jointed to the outer ends of two expanding wings or womb supporters. These wings are jointed or hinged together in the centre of the apparatus, similar joints or hinges being formed across the ring for the purpose of enabling the apparatus to be closed or contracted, when being 5 inserted into the vagina and expanded or opened out, when properly adjusted in its place. In their expanded state the upper surfaces of the wings form an efficient support to the neck of the womb, the apparatus being retained in its place by the entrance of the fleshy parts into suitable recesses, or indentations made for that purpose on the upper surfaces of the wings. The ring when 10 the apparatus is applied also opens out and fits against the lips of the vagina, so as to maintain a free passage for the fluids and secretions.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said John Henry Johnson in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 26th May 1862.

15

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JOHN HENRY JOHNSON, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the County of Middlesex, and of 166, Buchanan Street, in the City of Glasgow, North Britain, Gentleman, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters 20 Patent, bearing date the Twenty-sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, in the twenty-fifth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said John Henry Johnson, Her special license that I, the said John Henry Johnson, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such 25 others as I, the said John Henry Johnson, my executors, administrators, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Inven- 30 tion for "**A NEW OR IMPROVED APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING THE WOMB IN CASES OF PROLAPSUS UTERI**," a communication from abroad by Otto Langgaard, of Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia, upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said John Henry Johnson, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, or under the hand and seal 35 of one of them, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the

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said Invention and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent.

NOW KNOW YE, that I, the said John Henry Johnson, do hereby declare
5 the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement, reference being had to the accompanying Drawings and to the letters and figures marked thereon, that is to say :—

The said Invention relates to a peculiar construction of apparatus which the
10 Inventor terms the “hysterophore,” for supporting the womb in cases of prolapsus uteri or bearing down of the womb.

This apparatus, which may be made of hardened india-rubber or other suitable material, consists of a ring which is connected by swivel joints to two link pieces, situate on diametrically opposite sides of the ring, the opposite
15 ends of the link pieces being respectively jointed to the outer ends of two expanding wings. These wings are jointed or hinged together in the centre of the apparatus, similar joints or hinges being formed across the ring for the purpose of enabling the apparatus to be closed or contracted when being inserted into the vagina, and expanded or opened out when properly adjusted in
20 its place.

And in order that the said Invention may be fully understood I shall now proceed more particularly to describe the same, and for that purpose I shall refer to the several Figures on the Sheet of Drawings hereunto annexed, the same letters of reference indicating corresponding parts throughout all the
25 Figures.

Figure 1 of the Drawings represents a plan of the upper part or ring of this apparatus. Figure 2 is a vertical section taken through the centre thereof, when opened or expanded, that being the position it is made to assume when in use. Figure 3 is a plan of the under side or wings of the apparatus, and
30 Figures 4 and 5 represent respectively an edge view and side elevation of the apparatus in its folded or closed position in readiness for insertion into the vagina. The whole of these Figures are drawn full size. A is a ring connected by swivel joints *a, a*, to two link pieces, B, B, which are again connected by ordinary hinge joints, *b, b*, to the outer ends of the two expanding wings, C, C. These wings are jointed or hinged together in the centre of the
35 apparatus at *c*, similar parallel joints or hinges being formed at *d, d*, across the ring, for the purpose of enabling the apparatus to be closed as in Figures 4 and 5 when being placed inside the vagina. In applying this apparatus it is introduced with the ring first into the vagina until the wings have completely entered,

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whereupon it is opened, or expanded by slight lateral pressure against the inner sides of the wings, when the apparatus will assume the position shewn at Figures 1, 2, and 3. The ring being thus opened affords a support for the neck of the womb, and the pressure upon it being transferred to the wings through the links B, tends to keep the wings open or expanded; *e, e*, are circular recesses 5 or sunk portions formed in the outer surfaces of the wings, so that the adjacent fleshy parts may come in contact therewith, and so tend to retain the apparatus more securely in the desired position when once adjusted.

Having now described and particularly ascertained the nature of the said Invention, and the manner in which the same is or may be used, or carried 10 into effect, I would observe in conclusion that what I consider to be novel and original, and therefore claim as the Invention secured to me by the herein-before in part recited Letters Patent is, the general construction and arrangement of apparatus for supporting the womb, substantially as herein-before described and illustrated by the Drawings. 15

In witness whereof, I, the said John Henry Johnson, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twenty-sixth day of May, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

J. HENRY JOHNSON. (L.S.)

LONDON:

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1862.

FIG. 1.

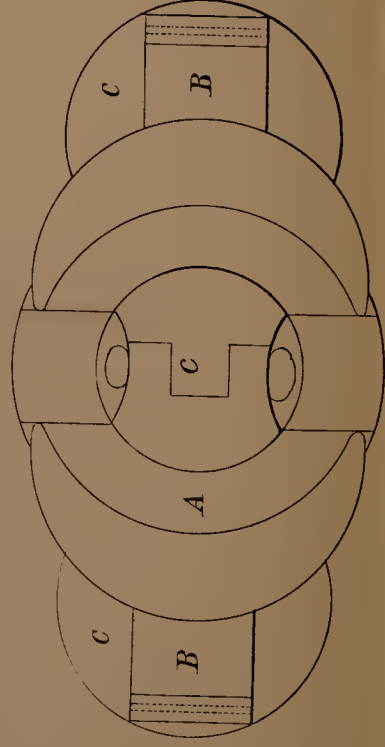


FIG. 2.

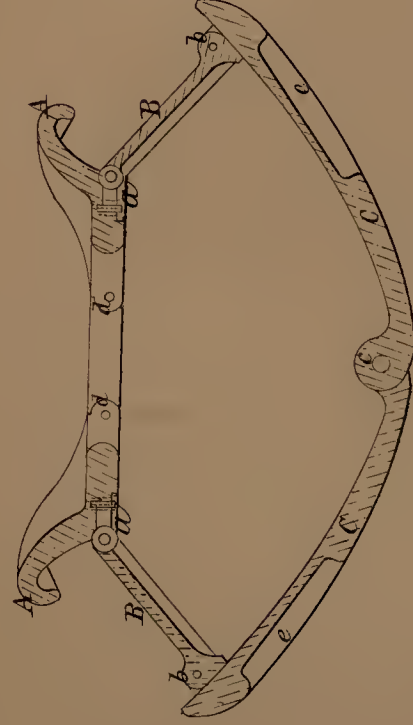


FIG. 3.

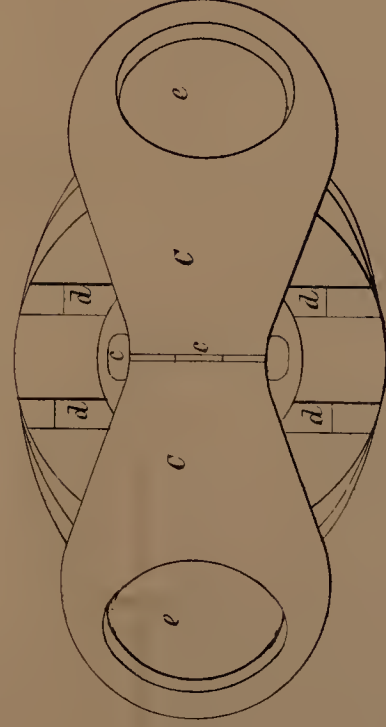


FIG. 4.

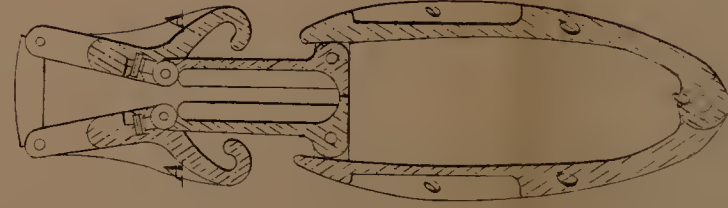


FIG. 5.

